



# ***The Beach Voter***

League of Women Voters Beach Cities  
Serving El Segundo, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Manhattan Beach & Redondo Beach

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## **AGRICULTURE UPDATE SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY**

As the severe weather affects many states and California faces a possible drought, our focus on agriculture seems all the more timely. Updating the League's position to address many critical issues will depend on members' participation in the consensus. The January 28<sup>th</sup> and February 25<sup>th</sup> membership meetings will give you an opportunity to discuss and share your opinions so that the League may expand its position and advocate for better policies and solutions regarding agriculture in the United States. The January meeting will focus on the subjects of Food Safety and Food Labeling, which impact all of us, no matter where we might live.

You will be better prepared for reaching consensus if you review the study papers available on the following website:

<http://www.lwv.org/member-resources/agriculture-update?page1>

Don't miss these important meetings, both of which will be held from 7 pm to 9 pm at the Manhattan Beach Community Church, 303 S. Peck Ave in Manhattan Beach. Parking is accessible behind the church on Rowell Avenue at the corner of Voorhees.

Be a part of the consensus. The consensus questions are included for your review.

Jan Nathanson, Program Vice President

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The League affirms our belief in our commitment to diversity and pluralism. There shall be no barriers to participation in any activity of the League on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin or disability. The League recognizes that diverse perspectives are important and necessary for responsible and representative decision-making.

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Any person of voting age, male or female, may become a League member.

<p>The Beach Voter</p> <p>President: Barbara Arlow</p> <p>Editor: Ruth Hart</p> <p>Copy Editor: Barbara Arlow</p> <p>Production: Mignon Thiem-Murphy Peggy Bartlett Susan Grebe Sunhee Park</p> <p>Labels: Ann Martin</p>
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To become a member: Send check in the amount of \$55.00 (payable to the League of Women Voters Beach Cities) to Susan Grebe at 629 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Beach CA 90266.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_



## **PROGRAM PLANNING AND HOLIDAY POTLUCK**

December 7, 2013

Jan Nathanson opened the meeting at 10:30 am, thanked Ann Martin for her hospitality, welcomed new members, and described the process, which was to review all National and County League positions as a large group. After initial introductions, we began with a review of the Social Policy positions and continued with Natural Resources, Representative Government and International Relations. The following were the conclusions:

### **SOCIAL POLICY – Harriet Chase**

- Under Equality of Opportunity/Equal Rights, delete “Support ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment” and change to “Promote an Equal Rights Amendment.” In that same sentence, change “the ERA” to “an ERA.”
- During the discussion we noted that the South Bay is lacking in Shelters for the homeless and we suggested that the League take a look at the homeless population and the lack of homeless shelters as a possible local study (local or county)

### **NATURAL RESOURCES – Maggie Wilkinson**

- After considerable discussion and review of the In Depth sections (<http://www.lwv.org/content/impact-issues>), we noted that the short versions of the positions needed to be brought up to date especially to focus on climate change.
  - Ruth Hart agreed to review the descriptions and recommend changes, then forward them to Diane Wallace who will review and send them on to Barbara Arlow for distribution and editing by the group.
  - We recommended that a separate category be created for climate change.
  - We also suggested that language should be included recommending a true economic analysis of any changes.
  - Maggie and Jan pointed out that a study was in progress for agriculture and that we would receive information and reading material soon. There was some question about whether the papers included/recommended for study were not compromised
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by the associations of the government agencies and officials who created them.

### **REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT – Joan Arias**

- Under Election Process/Appportionment, add “Apportionment should be conducted by the states on a non-partisan basis.”

### **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS – June Eicker**

- Under Trade, add a sentence indicating that there should be an emphasis on port security in the position.

### **COUNTY POSITIONS**

Jan highlighted the jail study that was added to the County Positions. We recommended under “Social Services,” that a focus on the homeless population and on available shelters/housing should be added. Harriet noted that there is a group in the South Bay focused on the homeless and that we should connect with that group Coalition for the Homeless - <http://sbhomeless.org>

### **WE NEED YOUR SUGGESTIONS!**

Do you have an idea for a local program that would be of interest to League members? All LWVBC members are encouraged to suggest topics for local programs in areas of their interest. All such recommendations should be sent to our VP of Programs, Jan Nathanson, at [rjnathanson@yahoo.com](mailto:rjnathanson@yahoo.com) or (310) 643-6247.

### **COUNTY WINTER LEAGUE DAY**

The LWV of Los Angeles County will hold its Winter League Day on Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014 from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm at the Lakewood Country Club, 3101 Carson Street, Lakewood, CA. A panel of experts from Covered California, Los Angeles County, and the Long Beach Health Department, will discuss the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Reservations are \$35 and should be mailed to LWV/LAC Treasurer, 3970 Sepulveda Blvd., Unit 201, Torrance, CA 90505. For more information, email or call Linda Herman at [lhermanpg@cox.net](mailto:lhermanpg@cox.net) or (310) 541-4473.

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## **ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION**

Our National LWV is very much in support of the new Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposal, which will limit the amount of carbon pollution from new power plants. Our National League President, Elizabeth MacNamara, was quoted as saying, "We are quite pleased that the President has kept his commitment to confront the greatest challenge of our lifetime: climate change. Power plants are the largest emitters of life-threatening carbon pollution in our country. Reducing the amount of carbon pollution, which is the leading cause of climate change, is a life -saving measure that will protect our children, our nation and the world from the devastating effects of climate change."

National League is asking each of us to stand with the League and support this groundbreaking regulation to ensure a cleaner, healthier future for everyone. Corporate polluters are already doing everything they can to block this important EPA proposed regulation. National is asking each of us to submit a comment to the EPA in support of the standard thereby making us part of the official record.

To send a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency via the postal service the address is 1200 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington DC 20420 or you can contact them electronically at [www.epa.gov/](http://www.epa.gov/)

In California, which is now officially in a drought emergency declared by Governor Brown on January 17th, it is really essential that we cut our water use by 20%. Our next Voter will have more information regarding actions we can take to reduce our use of water in addition to reducing outdoor watering.

## **ANNUAL NON-EVENT**

As is our custom in January, all Leaguers will soon be receiving in the mail a special invitation to our annual non-event. This is our primary fund raising event. It is so easy - just write us a check for any amount you wish to contribute, put it in an envelope and drop it in the mail. No need to get out of your PJs, and you don't have to wash your hair, make reservations or buy tickets. Nope, one simple check made out to LWVBC and sent to LWVBC, 629 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 will do nicely.

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Beach Voter		CALENDAR		Jan/Feb 14
Date	Time	Subject	Place	
Saturday January 25	9:30 am – 1:00 pm	County Winter League Day	Lakewood Country Club 3101 Carson Street Lakewood CA	
Tuesday January 28	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	January Membership Meeting: Agriculture Study, Part 1	Manhattan Beach Community Church 303 S. Peck Avenue Manhattan Beach	
Wednesday February 12	7:00 pm – 9:30 pm	February Board Meeting	Home of Harriet Chase 2151 Valley Drive Manhattan Beach	
Tuesday February 25	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm	February Membership Meeting: Agriculture Study, Part 2	Manhattan Beach Community Church 303 S. Peck Avenue Manhattan Beach	
Saturday March 29	TBD	LWV of California State Convention	TBD	



**League of Women Voters of the Beach Cities**  
**629 19<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Manhattan Beach, CA 90266**